

**City of Kittitas  
Council Meeting Minutes  
May 23, 2017**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Whitford led those assembled in the Flag Salute. Mayor Whitford called the regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. May 23, 2017. Councilmembers present: Pat Cort, John Camarata and Ben Whitehurst. Councilmembers Jerry Gilmour and Jasen Carlson were absent. Staff present: Debbie Lee – Clerk/Treasurer.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitehurst made a motion to approve Councilmember Gilmour and Carlson’s absence; second by Councilmember Cort.  
Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATED  
MAY 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve the regular Council Meeting minutes dated May 11<sup>h</sup>, 2017; second by Councilmember Whitehurst.  
Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WORK/STUDY MEETING DATED  
MAY 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve the Work Study Minutes dated May 11th, 2017; second by Councilmember Whitehurst.  
Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**ADDITIONS TO AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Payment approval for Advantage Dirt retainer on Patrick Avenue Project needs to be added to the agenda under Payment Approvals B.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; second by Councilmember Whitehurst.  
Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCE COMMENTS**

- Adam Crawford with Puget Sound Energy informed Council that they will be doing an energy assessment blitz starting June 6<sup>th</sup>. Puget Sound Energy employees will be wearing orange vests and going door to door to do energy assessments on homes. They will be giving out 20 free LED lightbulbs per house and aerators for sinks and showers. Puget Sound Energy will be giving out information on winterization and window rebates that are available. They will bring brochures to City Hall and a

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notice to post at City Hall informing the citizens. Puget Sound Energy will also come to the Town Hall Meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to inform the public at that time.

- Councilmember Cort stated this was a good program and has taken advantage of Puget Sound Energy programs in the past.
- Mayor Whitford also thanked Adam for the Wind Farm signs and informed him that one sign blew off of the post and Adam said that they would bring a replacement if it was needed.

**REPORT OF OFFICES AND SPECIAL GUESTS**

**A. Staff Reports (informational only)**

**Brenda Bach – Waste Water Treatment Plant**

- We have installed the new chlorine injector system at the tower and the new system is very similar to the last one. But does make it easier to regulate the chlorine gas injection and has a double check valve for chlorine stop leak for added safety. In addition, we have installed a water filter on the water side of the injector to ensure the injector system flows freely and without interruption which the last system did not have.
- We have a new regulation on water testing that monitors our chlorine levels in our water system. We now have to test at the water tower as an added safety measure. So we have made a few adjustments on the dog house that insulates the ball valve on the water tower from the winter cold, so we can slide the dog house back and forth more easily to access the water port on a daily basis as per regulation.
- We have replaced the ultraviolet lights in channel #2 for disinfection of the effluent (cleaned water) before it goes into Cooke Creek. And have plans possibly before the end of the year to replace the lights in channel #1 because we are just about out of hours on that channel so we have an alternate during cleaning and maintenance for ease of process to keep things running smoothly. The lights are good for 12,000 hours before they need to be replaced. Which is 500 days of disinfection per light set which each channel has 20 lights and they cost \$750.00 every 500 days. We only run 1 channel at a time and thankfully we don't usually change out both channels in one year but were running out of hours on channel #1 and we may need to change them out as well before the end of the year.

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**Lynette Johnson – Library**

- The Gilmour Memorial Library is busy preparing for the Summer Activity Program, formerly known as the Summer Reading Program. It will be every Wednesday from June 28<sup>th</sup> to July 26<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. We have also been having several kids come to our Story Time on Tuesday mornings from 11:00 – 12:00. The kids hear a story and do a small craft project. Carolyn Earwood has been doing that. Our new Wednesday hours have been quite successful, especially as more people know about it. It has helped our statistics improve for the past 2 month.
- We continue to process books on the shelves that have never been in the computer system and have finished barcoding the westerns, DVD's, Easy Reader Children's Books and are more than half way through the juvenile fiction books. Several thousand items have been barcoded so far.
- Councilmember Cort stated these monthly reports are very informative and she likes putting the information in the newsletters.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Ordinance 17-006 Establishing Clarified Regulations on Sidewalks**

- Mayor Whitford explained that the City had established an Ordinance with new houses being built that a sidewalk would need to be installed per Kittitas Municipal Code. Mayor Whitford looked at Cities similar to Kittitas and clarified the Ordinance to say that if there are no sidewalks within 100 feet to the left or the right that when road improvements were made the homeowner would enter into an agreement and can install sidewalks at that time. This new clarification will benefit citizens and the City at the same time.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve Ordinance 17-006; second by Councilmember Cort.

Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Verizon Water Tower Lease Price Agreement**

- Jeanine Tolcacher City attorney has reviewed and made changes to the lease agreement. One agreement was that when the water tower is painted Verizon will move and replace the antenna

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during painting at a cost to them and not the City. The amount Verizon offered to pay the City was \$1800.00 per month for the first 5 years. This would amount to \$21,600 per year.

- Discussion was had regarding what fund the money would be allocated too. Council thought maybe fund 404.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to approve the Verizon Lease Agreement amount of \$1800.00 per month; second by Councilmember Cort.  
Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**PAYMENT APPROVALS**

**A. May 23, 2017 Payables \$78,273.77**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Camarata made a motion to pay May 23, 2017 payables; second by Councilmember Cort.  
Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**B. Advantage Dirt Retainer Patrick Avenue Project \$11,668.55**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to approve payment of the retainer to Advantage Dirt Patrick Avenue Project; second by Councilmember Whitehurst.  
Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Whitford informed Council that Colin Flood and Jack Morefield were present at the meeting and wanted to talk with Council regarding the Cooke Creek Estates Property.
- Jack Morefield stated that in 2008 they had went thru the process of platting the property and then the economy took a dive so this project did not progress. Thus the 5 year life span expired. Jack and Colin had an informal meeting the Mayor Whitford and stated they have financing in place to move ahead with the project and would like to have Councils blessing. They discussed the lower four lots not being able to drain for water/sewer services so they would like to propose putting storage units in this area. They also have an interested party who would like to possibly have a type

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of mini mart/gas station on the front of the property. They understand that this would take a variance and Conditional Use Permit. They also discussed doing this project in two phase's lots 1-28 and then lots 29-42. They discussed having covenants where RV's, trailers etc. are not allowed on City Streets and having the houses be similar in size. They also talked about using local builders and only two to keep consistency.

- Mayor Whitford inquired about the type of storage units. Colin said similar to Bare Marchel Storage. Mayor Whitford also said that Jack and Colin should talk with Christina at Perteet and Brenda at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- Timing wise they are looking at having the roads put in by the end of construction season.
- Councilmember Whitehurst liked the idea, Councilmember Camarata stated he approved of this project in 2008 and approves now. Councilmember Cort felt the same way.
- Jack and Colin also talked about the amount of money spent on this project previously and wanted to know up front what they are looking at. Their next step would to have a pre application meeting with Safe Built and Christina Wollman with Perteet.
- The concerned citizen that voiced her concern over the street being swept thanked the City for taking care of this issue.
- The Queen of Spade garden club donated their unsold plants to the City and Mayor Whitford planted them by the library. She gave the remainder to Steve Hart and he was to plant out by the interchange.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

- Councilmember Cort inquired who was taking care of scheduling the planters along Main Street. Gail Johnson has been given the list and phone numbers to contact last year's volunteers.
- Councilmember Cort and Friends of the Kittitas Depot greeted the John Wayne Trail Riders they had coffee, muffins, water and carrots and apples for the horses. They heard a lot of good stories and everyone cleaned up after themselves. Friends of the Kittitas Depot received \$177 in donations. This group has been riding the John Wayne Trail for 20 years they come from Canada, Iowa and Texas. Tours of the Train Depot were also given.
- Councilmember Cort informed Council that Kittitas Friends of the Depot will be selling ice cream bars during the burnouts to raise money for the Train Depot.

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- Mayor Whitford asked Councilmember Cort if the Timeout Tavern would be open next year for the riders. Yes they will be.
- Bonnie a citizen was concerned that there are speeders on Main Street and the police should be patrolling more. Mayor Whitford informed her that the Police Department was working on getting a speed reader board that would help slow traffic.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Cort made a motion to adjourn; second by Councilmember Whitehurst.

Motion Carried: 3 yes 0 no.

**ADJOURN: 7:42 p.m.**

**Attest:**

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Mayor Whitford

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Debbie L. Lee Clerk/Treasurer